

REVIEWS OF BOOKS.

OPERATIVE SURGERY. By DR. JOSEPH D. BRYANT, Professor of Surgery at Bellevue University Medical College, New York City. Fourth Edition. D. Appleton & Co., 1905.

That four editions of this well-known work should have been called for at intervals relatively short is an indication of the estimation in which it is held by the profession, and also evidence that the distinguished author is determined that the operative surgery which bears his name shall be the last word on the subject, so far as this is possible in an age of rapid change and constant improvement. This edition has been thoroughly rewritten, and has been printed from new plates. It contains about 250 more pages than the previous edition and 200 more illustrations. It is the most complete work on operative surgery which has yet come under the notice of the reviewer. In the introductory chapter of the first volume the author generalizes broadly and lays down a number of maxims, and makes many commentaries which are worth the most careful consideration of the young surgeon, nor will the older operator lose anything by an occasional review of this chapter. In these days of commercial, not to say bargain counter, surgery, men whose rashness and desire for the rewards of the surgeon outpace their knowledge and capacity may well ponder over the following observation of Dr. Bryant: "An understanding of the anatomy of the parts involved in the operation is always essential to the comfort of the operator and frequently to the safety of the patient." The first part of this commentary we fear is superfluous, since the man who operates from the commercial stand-point is not apt to be troubled about his own ignorance. Indeed, even the safety of the patient will

concern him only in so far as it may affect future fees. The author further says that this knowledge is somewhat difficult to acquire and always of uncertain tenure. This is a good text for a sermon on the necessity of a long apprenticeship in the demonstratorship of anatomy as a prerequisite to real surgical attainments. We believe that it would be difficult to point out any of the surgeons of the first rank in this country who have not served such an apprenticeship. One may epitomize Dr. Bryant's remarks on this subject rather bluntly as follows: "Better learn your anatomy before you try to operate. You cannot learn it out of a book. Learn from the cadaver." This does not sound as smoothly as Dr. Bryant's flowing sentences, nor does it drop trippingly from the tongue, but it is what the author means, nevertheless.

The most important additions to the first volume occur in the chapter devoted to intracranial neurectomy, which contains an account of every operation for the relief of trigeminal neuralgia which has ever been suggested. Matas's new procedure for aneurism is well described, so is Cushing's operation for nerve grafting for the relief of facial paralysis. The description of the operations on the mastoid antrum has been elaborated, and some new procedures and instruments concerned in the surgery of the oesophagus are minutely described. It is with some surprise that we search in vain in the article on plastic surgery for any mention of Brophy's methods in cleft palate. The second volume contains many new operations on the intestinal tract. Indeed, there is not a single operation which has been omitted. All the various devices for facilitating intestinal anastomosis are here illustrated. There is not a stitch which has ever been invented which is not illustrated in these pages. McGraw's recent method of colectomy, Moynihan's gastro-enterostomy, Mayo's pylorotomy, and Finney's pyloroplasty are all clearly described. The section on the surgery of the kidney describes the investigations of Broedel and Kelly on the arterial supply of this viscus and its relation to nephrolithotomy. There is much new matter in the

article on hernia, besides clear descriptions of all the standard operations for the relief of this infirmity. The article on the surgery of the prostate contains a lucid description of all the recent work that has been done in this important branch of surgery. There is not an operation of moment which has been omitted in any branch of surgery, except those which the author has specifically omitted, namely, operations of the female pelvis and the surgery of the eye. The descriptions and illustrations throughout are so clear that it is impossible to misunderstand them. Nevertheless, let the tyro be not deceived. Let him take Dr. Bryant's advice and learn his anatomy in the dissecting-room. At the same time, if he will not or cannot do this, there is no book which will keep him out of trouble so far as a book can do so like this work of Dr. Bryant.

ALGERNON THOMAS BRISTOW.

THE URINE AND FÆCES IN DIAGNOSIS. By OTTO HENSEL, Ph.G., M.D., Bacteriologist, German Hospital, New York, and RICHARD WEIL, A.M., M.D., Pathologist, German Hospital, New York, in collaboration with SMITH ELY JELLIFFE, M.D., Ph.D., Instructor in Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Columbia University; Visiting Neurologist, City Hospital, New York. Illustrated with 116 Engravings and 10 Colored Plates. Philadelphia and New York: Lea Brothers & Co., 1905.

Numerous as are the works on urinalysis, this volume has much to recommend it over its predecessors, for it is replete in all the modern methods which have contributed towards making the analysis of urine a most exacting study, demanding rather more than the reagents for albumen and sugar and a microscope.

A very commendable feature is that the urine is studied not merely from the laboratory stand-point, but the findings of the analysis are everywhere harmonized with the clinical picture. By far the greater attention has been given to the chemical analy-